FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 9, 2009 STATE OF UTAH SCHOOL & INSTITUTIONAL TRUST LANDS ADMINISTRATION 675 EAST 500 SOUTH, SUITE 500 SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84102

## SITLA RE-USES WATER FOR CONSERVATION IN ST GEORGE

The State of Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA), UDOT, and the city of St. George entered into an agreement for the re-use and conservation of water for to the South Corridor of St. George. The agreement was reached among the three parties allocating the costs for the project between the parties. UDOT paid for the materials, St. George City paid to bury the line, and SITLA paid for the engineering and construction management.

Initial planning for the water line was done by UDOT as a way to provide lower-cost water for construction of the Southern Parkway. UDOT planned to place a temporary water line on the surface of the ground carrying re-use water to the construction project and then remove the line once the project was finished.

However, during meetings among UDOT, St. George City, and SITLA, it was determined that for very little additional cost the water line could be buried permanently. This new water line services the construction water needs of the Southern Parkway and will supply future commercial and residential developments in the area and their need for secondary or irrigation water. The cost for the re-use water is approximately half the cost of culinary water.

The re-use water line was extended from a point north between the Sun River Golf Course and the Virgin River to its current location at River Road and the Southern Parkway (approximately 26,600 feet) in two phases. Plans to extend the line further to the east are underway. The cost to extend the water line to its current location is approximately one million dollars.

SITLA is an independent state agency that manages 3.4 million acres of Utah trust lands for the benefit of Utah's schools and other public institutions. Money generated from the school trust lands is deposited in the state Permanent School Fund, a perpetual endowment that annually distributes income to each K-12 public school in Utah.

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